



Search Features

[Google Home](#)

[About Google](#)

Web Search

Help Center

[Basics of Search](#)

[Advanced Search](#)

[Search Results Page](#)

[Setting Preferences](#)

Search Features

Spell checker, stock quotes
& more

Services & Tools

Local Search, Product
Search, News & more

Google Tip Gadget

See daily tips, tricks, and
helpful hints for Google
products.

Find on this site:

Search

Improve Your Search Experience

In addition to providing easy access to billions of web pages, Google has many special features to help you to find exactly what you're looking for. Some of our most popular features are listed below.

[Everyday Essentials](#)

[Reference Tools](#)

[Choosing Keywords](#)

[Local Search](#)

[Health Search](#)

[Trip Planning](#)

[Query Refinements](#)

[Search by Number](#)

Everyday Essentials

Weather

To see the weather for many U.S. and worldwide cities, type "weather" followed by the city and state, U.S. zip code, or city and country.

Example:

Stock Quotes

To see current market data for a given company or fund, type the ticker symbol into the search box. On the results page, you can click the link to see more data from Google Finance.

Example:

Time

To see the time in many cities around the world, type in "time" and the name of the city.

Example:

Sports Scores

To see scores and schedules for sports teams type the team name or league name into the search box. This is enabled for many leagues including the National Basketball Association, National Football League, National Hockey League, and Major League Baseball.

All sports data provided by STATS LLC

Example:

Sunrise & Sunset

To see the precise times of sunrises and sunsets for many U.S. and worldwide cities, type "sunrise" or "sunset" followed by the city name.

Example:

[Back to top](#)

Reference Tools

Calculator

To use Google's built-in calculator function, simply enter the calculation you'd like done into the search box.

Example:

Book Search

If you're looking for results from Google Book Search, you can enter the name of the author or book title into the search box. Then, click on "Books" from the left-hand navigation to view book content. You can click through on the record to view more detailed info about that author or title.

Example:

Earthquakes

To see information about recent earthquakes in a specific area type "earthquake" followed by the city and state or U.S. zip code. For recent earthquake activity around the world simply type "earthquake" in the search box.

Example:

Unit Conversion

You can use Google to convert between many different units of measurement of height, weight, and volume among many others. Just enter your desired conversion into the search box and we'll do the rest.

Example:

Public Data

To see trends for population and unemployment rates of U.S. states and counties, type "population" or "unemployment rate" followed by a state or county. You can click through to a page that lets you compare different locations.

Example:

People Profiles

If you're looking for someone you just met or a long-lost friend, enter the name of that person plus some identifying words about him or her to see a list of people with that name.

Example:

[Back to top](#)

Choosing Keywords

Synonym Search

If you want to search not only for your search term but also for its synonyms, place the tilde sign (~) immediately in front of your search term.

Example:

Dictionary Definitions

To see a definition for a word or phrase, simply type the word "define" then a space, then the word(s) you want defined. To see a list of different definitions from various online sources, you can type "define:" followed by a word or phrase. Note that the results will define the entire phrase.

Example:

Spell Checker

Google's spell checking software automatically checks whether your query uses the most common spelling of a given word. If it thinks you're likely to generate better results with an alternative spelling, it will ask "Did you mean: (more common spelling)?". Click the suggested spelling to launch a Google search for that term.

Example:

[Back to top](#)

Local Search

Local Search

If you're looking for a store, restaurant, or other local business you can search for the category of business and the location and we'll return results right on the page, along with a map, reviews, and contact information.

Example:

Movie Showtimes

To find reviews and showtimes for movies playing near you, type "movies" or the name of a current film into the Google search box. If you've already saved your location on a previous search, the top search result will display showtimes for nearby theaters for the movie you've chosen.

Example:

[Back to top](#)

Health Search

Health Conditions

To see information about a common disease or symptom, enter it into the search box and we'll return the beginning of an expert summary. You can click through to read the entire article.

Example:

Medications

To see information about most generic and brand name prescription drugs in the U.S.,

enter the drug name into the search box, and we'll display a summary and description of that medication. You can click through links from the National Institutes of Health to get more information about side effects, how to take the medication, precautions, dietary instructions, and what to do if you miss a dose.

Example:

Poison Control

You can quickly find the U.S. poison control hotline (1-800-222-1222) by entering "poison control" or similar phrases into the search box.

Example:

Suicide Prevention

You can quickly find the phone number for the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (1-800-273-8255) by entering "suicide prevention" or similar phrases into the search box.

Example:

Flu Vaccine Finder

During flu season, search for "flu" to find tips on how to stay healthy from U.S. Health and Human Services and a flu shot locator which uses Google Maps to show you nearby locations offering seasonal and/or H1N1 flu vaccine.

Example:

[Back to top](#)

Trip Planning**Flight Tracking**

To see flight status for arriving and departing U.S. flights, type in the name of the airline and the flight number into the search box.

Example:

Currency Conversion

To use our built-in currency converter, simply enter the conversion you'd like done into the Google search box and we'll provide your answer directly on the results page.

Example:

Maps

Looking for a map? Type in the name or U.S. zip code of a location and the word "map" and we'll return a map of that location. Clicking on the map will take you to a larger version on Google Maps.

Example:

[Back to top](#)

Query Refinements

Plus (+) Operator

Google ignores common words and characters such as where, the, how, and other digits and letters that slow down your search without improving the results. If a common word is essential to getting the results you want, you can make sure we pay attention to it by putting a "+" sign in front of it.

Example:

Related Search

To search for web pages that have similar content to a given site, type "related:" followed by the website address into the Google search box.

Example:

Fill in the Blank

Sometimes the best way to ask a question is to get Google to 'fill in the blank' by adding an asterisk (*) at the part of the sentence or question that you want finished into the Google search box.

Example:

[Back to top](#)

Search by Number

Package Tracking

You can track packages by typing the tracking number for your UPS, Fedex or USPS package directly into the search box. We'll return results that include quick links to easily track the status of your shipment.

Example:

Patent Numbers

To search for U.S. patents, enter the word "patent" followed by the patent number into the Google search box and hit the Enter key or click the Google Search button.

Example:

[Back to top](#)

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Using Google to find PowerPoint (PPT) Presentations

1. Got to www.google.com
2. Click the “Advanced Search” link at the right of the search window.
3. In the Advanced Search area:
 - a. Enter the desired search terms. (Could be key words of topics you will be teaching)
 - b. Choose the File Type – Microsoft PowerPoint.
 - c. Click the “Advanced Search” button
 - d. This will return a list of PowerPoint files.

Opening and Viewing PowerPoint Presentation

On the results page, you will see a title and a description for each PPT file.

1. To view the file in your browser: Click the “View as HTML” link.
2. To open the file in PPT:
 - a. Click the title and choose to save the file. Or Right-click (Win) or Control-click (Mac) the title and choose “save target as” or “save link as” and save it on your computer.
 - b. Double-click the saved file and it will open in PPT.

Once the file is open in PPT, you can edit and customize it to fit your needs. Be sure to give credit to the original author.

Finding PowerPoint Games

There are many games created by teachers with the PPT application. You can use Google’s Advanced Search options to find these.

1. Add the word “jeopardy” or “millionaire” to your key word.
2. Choose the File Type Microsoft PowerPoint.
3. Click the “Advanced Search” button. Then follow the instructions above to open and use the game. Be sure to view the file as a “Slide Show” to play the game.